

LAW OFFICES

BIRCH, HORTON, BITTNER AND CHEROT

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

1155 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W. • SUITE 1200 • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 • TELEPHONE (202) 659-5800 • FACSIMILE (202) 659-1027

HAL R. HORTON (1944 - 1998)

JENNIFER C. ALEXANDER
RONALD G. BIRCH**
WILLIAM H. BITTNER
KATHRYN A. BLACK
CHRISTOPHER R. CAUSEY
SUZANNE CHEROT
ALLISON M. ELLIS**†
KATHLEEN TOBIN ERB
DOUGLAS S. FULLER*
MAX D. GARNER

GRETCHEN L. GASTON†
DAVID KARL GROSS
TINA M. GROVIER
WILLIAM P. HORN*
STEPHEN H. HUTCHINGS
ROY S. JONES, JR.*
THOMAS F. KLINKNER
HARVEY A. LEVIN†
STANLEY T. LEWIS
KEVIN J. McCREA

THOMAS M. McDERMOTT
MICHELLE MESHKE
BARBARA A. MILLER*
GREGORY A. MILLER
PETER C. NOSEK**
KARA A. NYQUIST
MICHAEL J. PARISE
TIMOTHY J. PETUMENOS
ELISABETH H. ROSS**

KATHLEEN SCHAECHTERLE, OF
COUNSEL
* D.C. BAR
** D.C. AND ALASKA BAR
† MARYLAND BAR
‡ VIRGINIA BAR
ALL OTHERS ALASKA BAR

1127 WEST SEVENTH AVENUE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-3399
(907) 276-1550
FACSIMILE (907) 276-3680

June 26, 2003

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Ms. Judy Mann
Confidential Assistant
Chairman Michael Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

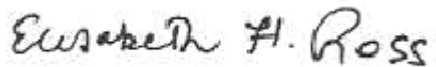
Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Judy:

On June 23, 2003, Tom Welch, Chairman of the Maine Public Utilities Commission, Michael Dworkin, Chairman of the Vermont Public Service Board, and John Burke, Board Member of the Vermont Public Service Board, met with Chairman Michael Powell and Chris Libertelli, Wireline Competition Legal Advisor. Chairmen Welch and Dworkin and Board Member Burke discussed issues related to universal service funding for rural states served by non-rural telephone carriers. These issues included problems with updates to the model used to calculate support for non-rural telephone carriers, and longer term solutions to funding rural states' universal service needs.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, this letter is being electronically filed with your office. If you have any questions concerning this submission, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Elisabeth H. Ross
Attorney for the Vermont Public Service Board

cc: Chris Libertelli

G:\101312\3\HRH0242.DOC